

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-3. Please add claims 4-23 as set forth below:

1. canceled.
2. canceled.
3. canceled
4. (new) An emergency ladder system adapted for mounting within an exterior wall of a dwelling below a window therein, the emergency ladder system comprising:
 - a rectangular frame box having stationary, opposed sidewalls, top wall, bottom wall and rear wall, each stationary wall adapted for fastening within the exterior wall of a dwelling;
 - a door and step wall hinged at one edge to the bottom wall opposite the rear wall;
 - a pair of flexible door and step wall support straps, each attached at a first end to one frame box, stationary sidewall adjacent the top wall and at a second end to the door and step wall adjacent an edge opposite the hinged edge thereof, the support straps of a selected length to prevent the door and step wall from pivoting beyond parallel with the frame box bottom wall; and
 - a collapsible ladder assembly attached to the door and step wall opposite the hinged edge thereof, the ladder assembly including a pair of continuous ladder support straps, each attached at one end to the door and step wall adjacent the door and step wall support straps, and a plurality of ladder rungs connected between the ladder support straps at regular intervals;

whereby the emergency ladder system is mounted within the exterior wall of the dwelling with the door and step wall on an outer surface thereof, and whereby in a system storage condition, the collapsible ladder assembly is folded up and located within the box frame with the door and step wall vertically oriented and closed to the top wall, and the system is deployed by pivoting the door and step wall to a horizontal orientation with the ladder assembly extending downwardly therefrom.

5. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, further including a pair of insulating panels interior the frame box, one insulating panel attached to the frame box rear wall and the other insulating panel attached to the door and step wall.

6. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, further including a door pull attached to an exterior surface of the door and step wall opposite the hinged edge thereof, the door pull releasably maintaining the door and step wall in a storage condition with the door and step wall vertically oriented and closed to the top wall thereof.

7. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, wherein the door and step wall support straps and the continuous ladder support straps are fabricated from nylon webbing.

8. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, wherein the rectangular frame box and the door and step wall are fabricated from aluminum panels.

9. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, further including an outer panel secured to an outer surface of the door and step wall, the outer panel adapted to match an exterior wall surface of the dwelling.

10. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, wherein the door and step support straps and the ladder support straps are attached to the door and step wall through a common rod secured to the door and step wall.

11. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 4, further including an anti-slip surface contained on each ladder rung to assist the user in descending the ladder in a deployed condition.

12. (new) An emergency ladder system adapted for mounting within an exterior wall of a dwelling below a window therein, the emergency ladder system comprising:

- a rectangular frame box having stationary, opposed sidewalls, top wall, bottom wall and rear wall, each stationary wall adapted for fastening within the exterior wall of a dwelling;

- a door and step wall hinged at one edge to the bottom wall opposite the rear wall;

- a pair of insulating panels interior the frame box, one insulating panel attached to the frame box rear wall and the other insulating panel attached to the door and step wall;

- a pair of flexible door and step wall support straps, each attached at a first end to one frame box, stationary sidewall adjacent the top wall and at a second end to the door and step wall adjacent an edge opposite the hinged edge thereof, the support straps of a selected length to prevent the door and step wall from pivoting beyond parallel with the frame box bottom wall; and

a collapsible ladder assembly attached to the door and step wall opposite the hinged edge thereof, the ladder assembly including a pair of continuous ladder support straps, each attached at one end to the door and step wall adjacent the door and step wall support straps, and a plurality of ladder rungs connected between the ladder support straps at regular intervals;

whereby the emergency ladder system is mounted within the exterior wall of the dwelling with the door and step wall on an outer surface thereof, and whereby in a system storage condition, the collapsible ladder assembly is folded up and located within the box frame with the door and step wall vertically oriented and closed to the top wall, and the system is deployed by pivoting the door and step wall to a horizontal orientation with the ladder assembly extending downwardly therefrom.

13. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 12, further including a door pull attached to an exterior surface of the door and step wall opposite the hinged edge thereof, the door pull releasably maintaining the door and step wall in a storage condition with the door and step wall vertically oriented and closed to the top wall thereof.

14. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 12, wherein the door and step wall support straps and the continuous ladder support straps are fabricated from nylon webbing.

15. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 12, wherein the rectangular frame box and the door and step wall are fabricated from aluminum panels.

16. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 12, further including an outer panel secured to an outer surface of the door and step wall, the outer panel adapted to match an exterior wall surface of the dwelling.

17. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 12, wherein the door and step support straps and the ladder support straps are attached to the door and step wall through a common rod secured to the door and step wall.

18. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 12, further including an anti-slip surface contained on each ladder rung to assist the user in descending the ladder in a deployed condition.

19. (new) An emergency ladder system adapted for mounting within an exterior wall of a dwelling below a window therein, the emergency ladder system comprising:

- a rectangular frame box having stationary, opposed sidewalls, top wall, bottom wall and rear wall, each stationary wall adapted for fastening within the exterior wall of a dwelling;

- a door and step wall hinged at one edge to the bottom wall opposite the rear wall;

- a pair of insulating panels interior the frame box, one insulating panel attached to the frame box rear wall and the other insulating panel attached to the door and step wall;

- an outer panel secured to an outer surface of the door and step wall, the outer panel adapted to match an exterior wall surface of the dwelling;

- a pair of flexible door and step wall support straps, each attached at a first end to one frame box, stationary sidewall adjacent the top wall and at a second end to the door and step wall adjacent

an edge opposite the hinged edge thereof, the support straps of a selected length to prevent the door and step wall from pivoting beyond parallel with the frame box bottom wall;

a collapsible ladder assembly attached to the door and step wall opposite the hinged edge thereof, the ladder assembly including a pair of continuous ladder support straps, each attached at one end to the door and step wall adjacent the door and step wall support straps, and a plurality of ladder rungs connected between the ladder support straps at regular intervals; and

a door pull attached to an exterior surface of the door and step wall opposite the hinged edge thereof, the door pull releasably maintaining the door and step wall in a storage condition with the door and step wall vertically oriented and closed to the top wall thereof;

whereby the emergency ladder system is mounted within the exterior wall of the dwelling with the door and step wall on an outer surface thereof, and whereby in a system storage condition, the collapsible ladder assembly is folded up and located within the box frame with the door and step wall vertically oriented and closed to the top wall, and the system is deployed by pivoting the door and step wall to a horizontal orientation with the ladder assembly extending downwardly therefrom.

20. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 19, wherein the door and step wall support straps and the continuous ladder support straps are fabricated from nylon webbing.

21. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 19, wherein the rectangular frame box and the door and step wall are fabricated from aluminum panels.

22. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 19, wherein the door and step support straps and the ladder support straps are attached to the door and step wall through a common rod secured to the door and step wall.

23. (new) The emergency ladder system of claim 19, further including an anti-slip surface contained on each ladder rung to assist the user in descending the ladder in a deployed condition.